



Quarterly Pastor's Perspective

February 16, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is hard to believe that Christmas and Advent have come and gone and we are quickly approaching Lent and Easter! Our Christmas Season was wonderful with our attendance increasing beyond expectations. Good thing we added that 4th service!

We are now moving into Lent which is a forty-day season of “preparation for the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, where we receive the mark of the cross in ashes on our foreheads as a reminder that we were created from dust and to dust we shall return. (There are actually 46 days from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday; however, Sundays are **not** counted in the 40-day season of Lent because we celebrate Christ’s resurrection every Sunday throughout the year!)

Our Lenten theme this year is: “MISSION: POSSIBLE!” We will explore weekly themes (Family, Hunger, World, Help, Fear, and Hope) through our Lenten devotional and worship services. Our Wednesday Lenten worship services will include the Holden Evening Prayer and Lenten dramas.

We invite you to join us for other events and activities throughout Lent including Wednesday night soup suppers, the Seder dinner (April 1st), the Sunday School Easter Extravaganza, Easter breakfast (put on by our Youth to sponsor the Youth Mission Trip), Easter lilies, and spring cleaning (March 27th). Please look for more details in the bi-weekly editions of the Faith Communicator and on our website (<http://fclc.org>).

Since our growth continues to increase, we have made the decision to add another worship service on Sunday mornings. Beginning Easter Sunday, we will offer worship services at 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM. The Christian Education hour will begin at 9:30 AM. We believe that having 30 minutes of transition time between services will make it a LOT easier to have coffee and conversation!

At the annual meeting on January 10th, the congregation approved the budget to build a Welcome Center. The Welcome Center will do double duty as office space during the week. Even though the budget was approved, there were concerns regarding cost. In response to those concerns, we are researching alternative ideas (including a possible change in location) and looking for additional bids to reduce the cost.

On January 24th, 2010, we began printing the weekly Worship bulletin without announcements so that we may spend our worship time focusing on God through worship, prayer, and devotion.

However, in order to ensure communication regarding our activities and events, we now print the Faith Communicator Newsletter every-other-week. Both the newsletter and the bulletin are available on our website at fclc.org. Hard copies of the most current newsletters are also available throughout the Narthex. In an effort to be “green” we have chosen to no longer mass mail our newsletter through the US Postal Service. However, we will be happy to mail them to our Faith friends and family who are shut-ins or not able to attend services due to health issues. If you, or someone you know, is a shut in and is not already receiving the newsletter through the mail, please contact the church office at 303-776-8771.

Your Partner in Ministry,

Pastor Dan Hansen